

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 are pending before this amendment. By the present amendment, claims 1-14 are amended and new claim 15 is added. No new matter has been added.

In the office action (page 2), the drawings stands objected to for not being designated by a legend such as --Prior Art--. In response, a replacement sheet with FIGS. 1, 2A, 2B, and 3 designated --Prior Art-- and an annotated drawing sheet is attached hereto on a separate page.

In the office action (page 2), FIG. 4 stands objected to for failing to show a plurality of virtual private devices 120 as described in the specification [0057]. In response, [0057], [0094], and [0160] of the specification have been amended based on FIG. 4, i.e. the system includes a virtual private device 120. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

In the office action (page 3), the FIG. 5 stands objected to as failing to show the plurality of mapping/demapping devices 10, virtual private devices 120, virtual bridge device 100 and RPR device 110 as described in the specification [0094]. In response, this portion in [0094] in the specification has been removed and inserted between paragraph 93 and paragraph 94. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

In the office action (page 4), the FIG. 7 stands objected to as failing to show

certain elements described in the specification paragraph [0160]. In response, this portion in [0160] in the specification has been removed and inserted between paragraph 159 and paragraph 160. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

In the office action (page 5), claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶1 as failing to provide enablement for the virtual private devices. While the applicants respectfully disagree, amendments have been made to the specification [0063] to clarify the present invention.

Specifically, the applicants have amended paragraph 63 so that it now includes:

It is determined whether the data frames are sent to the processing device or the virtual interface device

This amendment does not constitute new matter, as the amendment merely clarifies what is already contained in the specification and claims for the purpose of providing a better understanding.

According to the flowchart of FIG. 4(F), the data processing and dispatching device can process data frames in two directions, i.e., from or to a processing device (including the virtual bridge device, the virtual private device and the RPR device). In particular, in FIG. 4(F), the data processing and dispatching device finds a processing device (e.g. the virtual bridge device) according to the data type number in the data frames in step 4; and it is determined whether the data frames are sent to the processing device or the virtual interface device in step 5; if the data frames are sent to the processing device, the data frames are processed by the processing device and transferred to the data processing and dispatching device in step 6; if the data frames

are sent to the virtual interface device, the data frames are output to a device interface (e.g. UNI or NNI) in step 8.

Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that the specification as amended provides enablement for the virtual interface device outputting data frames to corresponding device interfaces, and the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 112 ¶1 rejection.

In the office action (page 7), claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

The applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is overcome based on the discussion above for the 112 ¶1 rejection and in light of the clarifying amendments made to claim 1. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully resubmit the above arguments with respect to the 112 ¶1 rejection and request withdrawal of the 112 ¶2 rejection.

In the office action (page 8), claim 13 stands objected under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form. The applicants respectfully submit that original claim 13 is of proper dependent form, which includes the steps of processing the data frames by the virtual private device (claim 9) and processing the data frames by the Resilient Packet Ring Device (claim 10).

In the office action (page 8), claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0176450 (Kong). The "et al." suffix is

omitted in a reference name.

Claim 1 has been amended to traverse the rejection. Claim 1 and the claims that depend from it are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 as amended now recites in part:

--transmitting, via the data processing and dispatching device, the classified data frames from the virtual interface device to a processing device for processing--

Support for the amendments made to claim 1 can be found at least in the specification [0057] and [0062].

The applicants respectfully submit that nothing in Kong teaches the present invention of amended claim 1. Kong does not disclose the --data processing and dispatching device--, which is adapted to distribute the classified data frames to a processing device for processing.

Accordingly, it can be understood that the classification described in Kong is for providing COS to clients. In contradistinction, the classification described in the presently claimed invention is for the subsequent distribution.

Kong discloses SONET/SDH optical networks system and methods for selectively carrying Ethernet signals by classifying the packets in Ethernet signals and mapping the classified packets to virtual concatenation channels to provide different COS to the clients.

In contrast, the presently claimed invention claims a method for processing data through a system including a data processing and dispatching device, in which the data frames are classified --by the virtual interface device--. The classified data frames are then sent from the virtual interface device to a processing device (e.g. the virtual bridge

device, the virtual private device, or the RPR device) via the data processing and dispatching device, and the data frames are processed by the processing device. The data frames are then sent back to the virtual interface device via the data processing and dispatching device and output to the UNI or NNI. As is made clear by the above description, in method of the presently claimed invention **the classified data frames are distributed to a processing device, then processed in the processing device,** and output to the UNI or NNI, as is claimed in claim 1.

The processing device in this application **cannot** be equivalent to the virtual concatenation channels in Kong. As is understood by those skilled in the art, the virtual concatenation channels should be understood as ports, through which data frames are transported in turn. However, in the presently claimed invention, the --processing device-- is a device for processing data frames and sending back processed data frames to the data processing and dispatching device.

As described above, **nothing** in Kang teaches that the classified data frames are distributed to a processing device, then processed in the processing device, as is clearly claimed in claim 1 of the present invention.

Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that Kang does not teach the present invention of claim 1, and accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by Kong. An indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claim 1 is respectfully requested.

On a side note, the applicants would like to point out that Kong does **not** teach or suggest the technical solution, nor the problem to be solved, of the presently claimed invention. It is therefore respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 is non-obvious for

those skilled in the art.

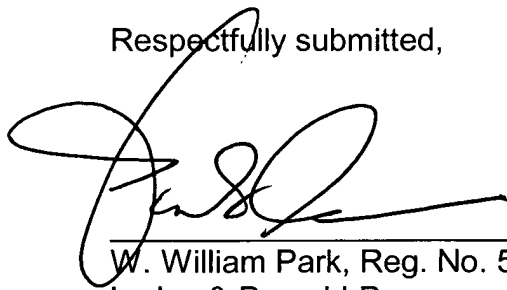
As to claims 2-15, the applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable at least since they depend from claim 1, which is now considered to be in condition for allowance for the reasons above.

For the reasons set forth above, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-15, now pending in this application, are in condition for allowance over the cited references. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and earnestly solicit an indication of allowable subject matter.

This amendment is considered to be responsive to all points raised in the office action. Should the examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 18, 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. William Park', is written over a horizontal line.

W. William Park, Reg. No. 55,523
Ladas & Parry LLP
224 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60604
(312) 427-1300

APPENDIX OF ATTACHMENTS

**Replacement Sheets of FIGS. , 2A, 2B, 3, and 4(F)
(a total of 3 drawing sheets)**

and

**Annotated Sheets Showing Changes of FIGS. , 2A, 2B, 3, and 4(F)
(a total of 3 drawing sheets)**

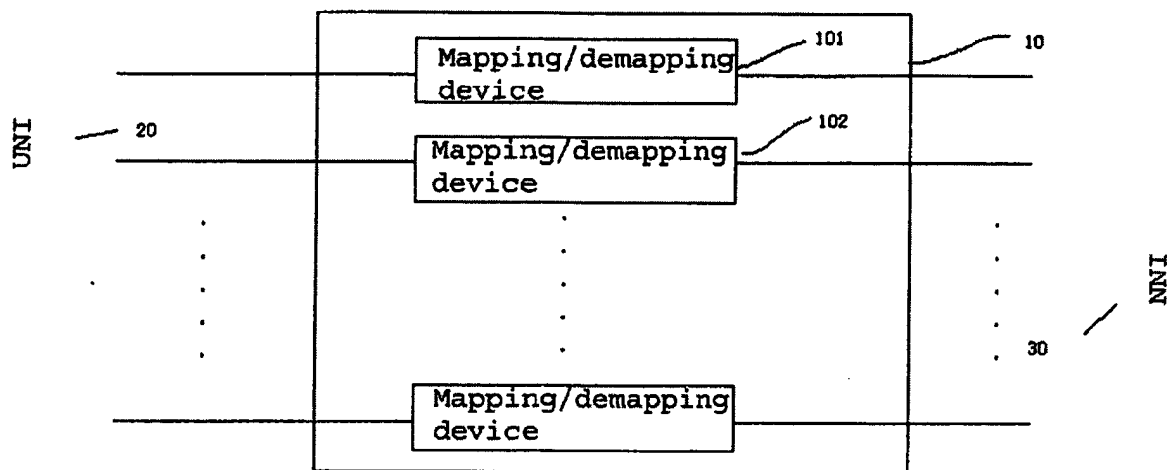


Fig. 1

(Prior Art)

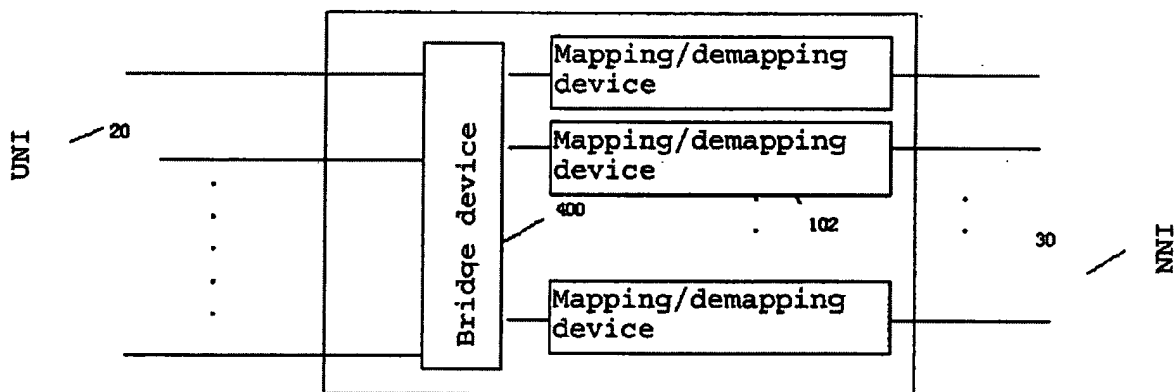


Fig. 2A

(Prior Art)

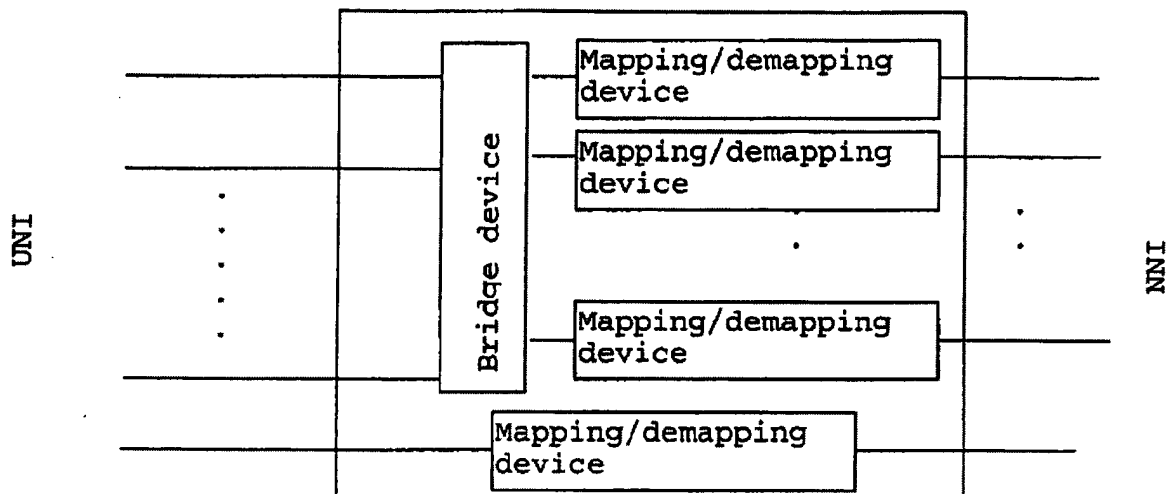


Fig. 2B

(Prior Art)

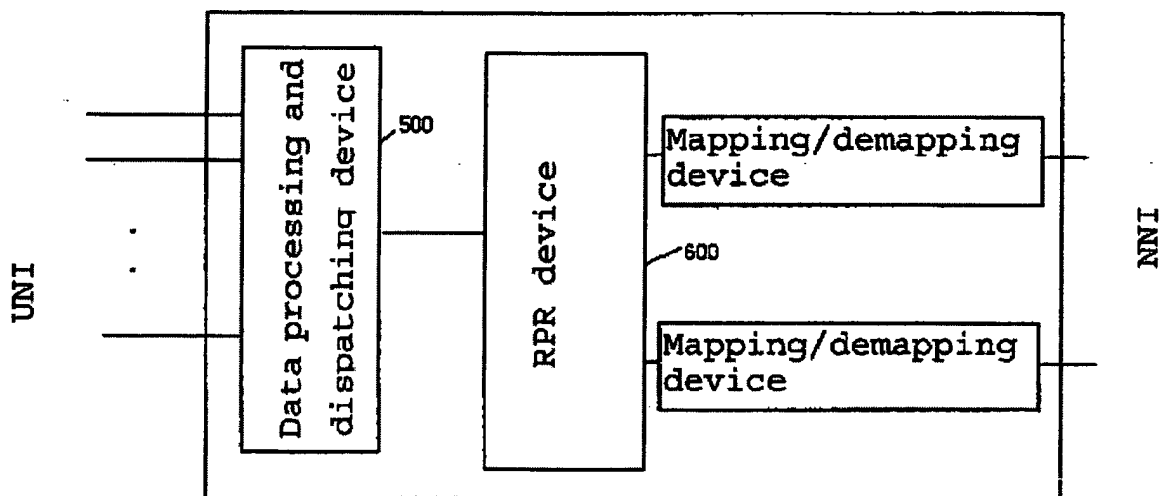


Fig. 3

(Prior Art)

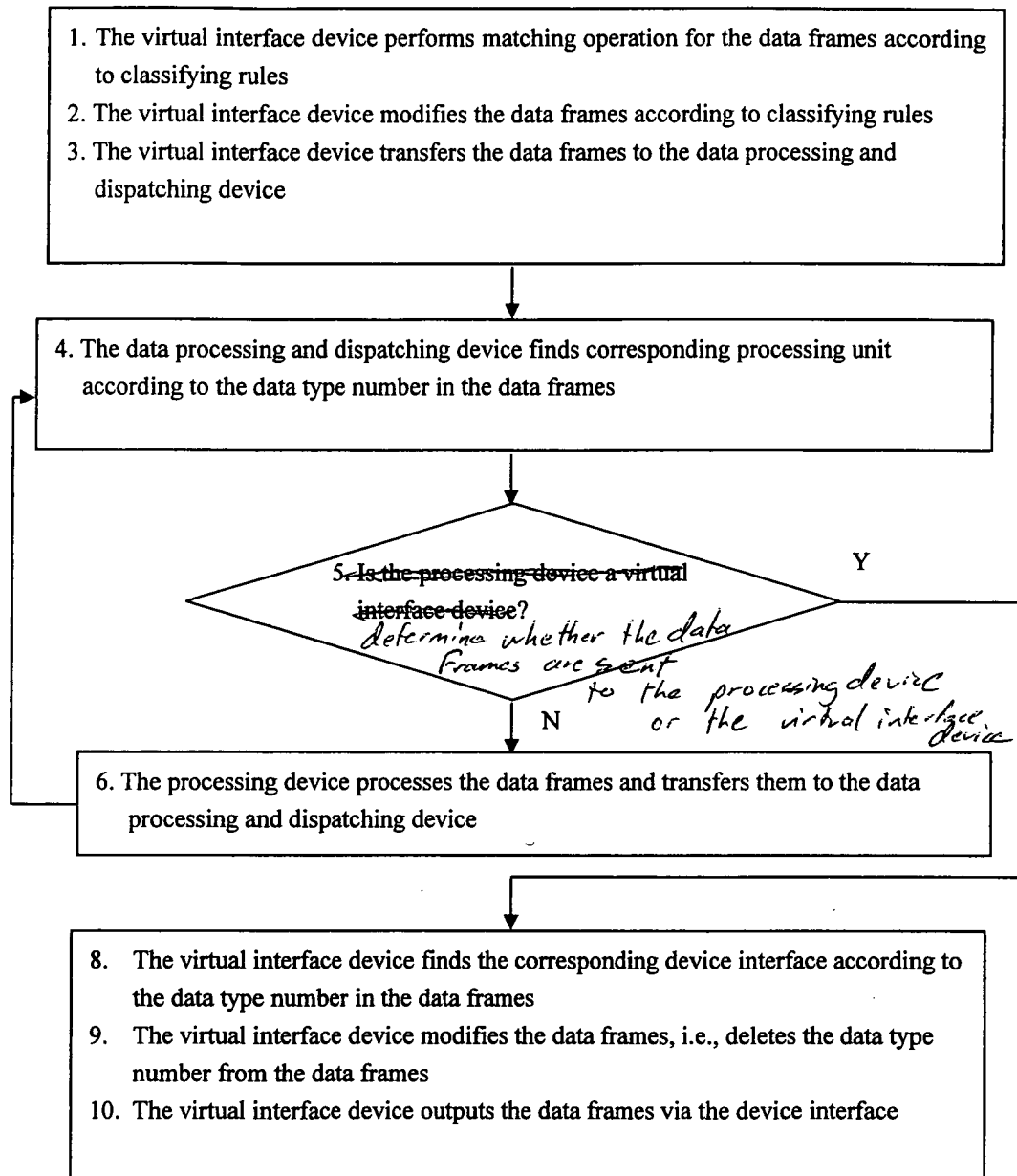


Fig.4(F)